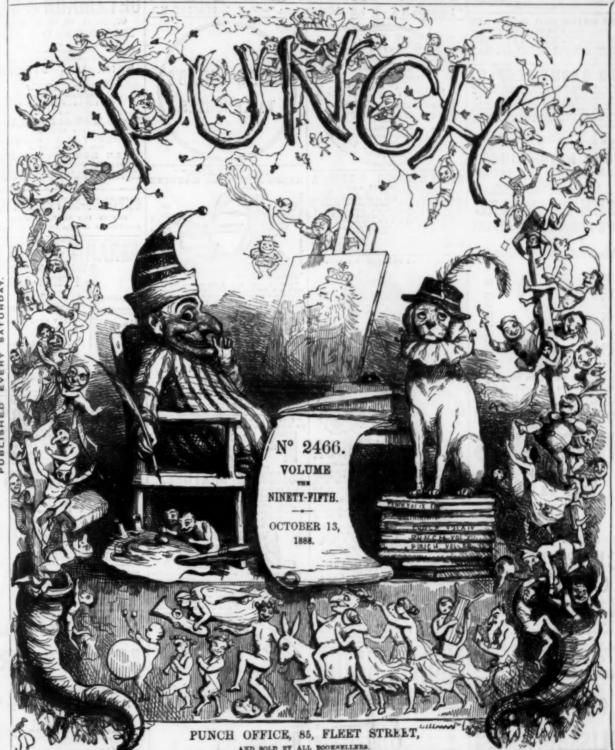
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C.

A SHOW OF ' SAVOY FARE."

IF SHARSPEARE as librettist, and MOZART as composer, had both ome to life again and written the most marvellous opera ever heard



by mortal ears, the Press generally, with the solitary exception of the musical critic of the Times, could not have gushed more of the Times, could not have gushed more rapturously, in larger type, and at greater length over such a work, than they did over the latest comic opera by GILBERT and SULLIVAN at the Savoy. Judging by the crisp and epigrammatic title, The Yeomen of the Guard; or, The Merryman and his Maid (you pay your money, and you take your choice of alternative titles) the librettist seems, up to the last moment, to have been undecided as to what he should call his new and original infant. In "the book of the words" he does not describe it as either serious or comic, simply as an it as either serious or comic, simply as an opera, which is wise. I have always contended that "new and original" need contended that "new and original" need not mean new to everybody, and quite original, and I am pleased to see that at last the critics, in dealing with this libretto, are inclined to favour my opinion. But had the opera been at the Saveloy Theatre instead of the Savoy Theatre, and written by two unknown collaborateurs, say Sulbert and Gillivan, instead of Gilbert and Sullivan, wouldn't the virtuously-indignant critics have been down on the librettist for not informing the public that the plot was founded on that of Maritana? The timid novice Sulbert might, perhaps, have attempted vice Sulbert might, perhaps, have attempted to disarm criticism by calling his new and "I have a song to sing O!" original opera The Beefeater's Bride: or, The Merryman and his Maritana, and would have humbly admitted his indebtedness to Mr. W. S. GILBERT for the

have humbly admitted his indebtedness to Mr. W. S. GILBERT for the use he had made of the latter's genuinely humorous Bab Ballad Jester James. The stern critics would promptly have pointed out that in good old FITEBALL-and-WALLACE'S Maritana, Don César is in prison and condemned to die, and so is Colonel Fairfax in The Beefeater's Bride: that the Don is married in prison to a veiled gipsy dancer, Maritana, and, the Colonel is married in prison to a veiled gipsy dancer, Elsie Maynard. "Maynard," the critics would have bitterly exclaimed, "is but a poor English rendering of Maritana!" With scathing irony they would have shown how, in the old opera, Don César escapes being shot, and returns "all alive O;" while in the new and original work Colonel Fairfax escapes being decapitated, and also reappears on the scene. Don César enters disguised as a monk; Colonel Fairfax comes in as a Beefeater. Don César and Maritana subsequently fall in love with each other: so do Colonel Fairfax and Elsie Maynard. Don César is pardoned by the King for a very good reason: the Colonel is reprieved for no reason at all, except to finish the opera, "a reason," the satirical critic would have added, "sufficiently satisfactory to the audience."

Then some erudite critic would have pointed out to the unfortunate

Then some erudite critic would have pointed out to the unfortunate SULBERT that an unknown librettist must not rashly tamper with history in a work intended to be serious, and would have lectured him on the utter improbability of a gipsy girl in all the bravery of an Esmeralda costume (whether accompanied by Point as Gringoire or not) daring to come rattling her tambourine and singing, within the precincts of the terrible Tower in the reign of Bluff King Har, when Gipsies were harassed, persecuted, hunted out of the kingdom, or strung up on the readiest made gibbet; and directly it was known that the gallant officer who, as a sorcerer, had been languishing in gaol, on being liberated, had married a heathen gipsy (supposing a priest had been found rash enough to commit such a sacrilege), the pair of them would have had short shrift and been burnt as witches; and as Colonel Pairfax, had already escaped decapitation, the professional Merryman might then have observed, "Mark you, the Colonel did but exchange his chop for a stake. A pretty conceit."

Beyond the above points, there is absolutely no resemblance between Then some erudite critic would have pointed out to the unfortunate

Beyond the above points, there is absolutely no resemblance between the two plots, and though poor SULBERT (without GILLIVAN) would thus have suffered at the hands of the Critical Faculty for daring to claim novelty and originality for his story, yet for Mr. GILBERT, of the firm of GILBERT and SULLIVAN, the critics have nothing but obsequious compliments and soutlivan, the critics have nothing but obsequious compliments and good-natured excuses. As to the music, even the sharpest and most hostile ear could not detect a trace of Wallace in the latest composition of Sir Arthur Sullivan. He, at all events, is guiltless of any intrigue with Maritana. It is genuine Sullivan, and charming throughout, though not, at first hearing, very catching,—which must always be the public test,—with the exception of the duet, repeated with chorus as finale, "I have a

song to sing, O," the first phrase of which I did manage to carry away with me, but while humming it on my road home, I found myself imperceptibly wandering into the "Lullaby" in Cox and Box, where I very nearly lost it altogether.

Dame Carruthers' first song, "When our gallant Norman Foes" is most effective, and might be in serious opera, were it not for the chorus of Beefeaters. Mr. COURTICE POUNDS is a simpering effeminate Fairfax, but sings prettily a ballad about "Moon" and "June," after the Yeomen in a previous "number" have already chorussed about "Noon" and "June." But of course the subject of the weather is inexhaustible, and there are plenty of rhymes still left to "Joon." The part of the Jester is a capital skit upon Touchstons and the Shakspearian clowns generally, and, with subtle cynicism, Mr. W. S. Gilbert shows how wearisome is the most excellent fooling of these medieval drolls to the playgoer of to-day. The notion of the Jester in search of a place, and being examined by an intending employer as to his capabilities ("My caper-bilities" he would say, and might have executed a short dance as a specimen), struck me as exquisitely humorous when I first read it some years ago (Was it among a second series of Bab Ballads in a magazine, or was it a short Christmas story by the same author?), but the idea seems to lose something of its humour on the Stage.

In a week or two, no doubt, Jester George will introduce some of his gaggery-waggery, and when, a propos of Colonel Fairfax making love to Elsie, he has to say something about "lying close as a maggot in a nut," he will add, "But, ifakins, what careth she for a 'nut,' now that she hath the 'Kernel'? A pretty wit!"

Mr. Denny, as the Gaoler, is very much Mr. Denny as the rural Policeman in Dandy Dick, only with music, and without the dialect. When Phwbe (Miss Jessie Bond, who is, before all, the life and soul of the opera) introduces to him first her lover as her brother, and then afterwards her real brother, and Mr. Denny exclaims,

and soul of the opera introduces to him first her lover as her brother, and then afterwards her real brother, and Mr. Denny exclaims, "Another brother! Are there any more of them?" one really expects him to add, "It's a nice lot of ac-quain-tances you're inter-doosing me to," or something much to that effect, which he used, in similar circumstances, to say to his wife in PINERO's

Comedy.

In the book, Mr. GILBERT has carefully pointed out, using capital letters for the purpose, that the first stanza of his finale is written in "ELEGIACS." This is very considerate, as it directs the critics' attention to a fact that might otherwise have escaped their notice. In old days, the jokes in the books of every Burlesque used to be printed in italics. There was no possibility of anybody passing over a pun. The motive in both cases is much the same.

The fault in the representation is that, with the occasional exception of Miss Jessie Bond and Miss Brandram—none of the actors play with conviction. They seem uncertain as to the character of

play with conviction. They seem uncertain as to the character of the piece,—is it serious, or isn't it? And if it isn't, are they to keep the joke to themselves, or to let the audience into the secret? keep the joke to themselves, or to let the audience into the secret? Mr. Grossmith, with an occasional sly wink at the house, seems to incline to the latter view, and no doubt when he has exaggerated his dances, developed his comic business, and made the part quite his own, it will go with roars, especially his contradictory duet with Mr. Denny, which is clearly founded on the model of the well-known comic song, where the wife pertinaciously insists that something can only be cut with seissors, when the husband obstinately sticks to it that a knife must be used:—

" Cut it with a knife, Said he. Cut it with the scissors, Said she

(He) Knife, (She) acissors, (He) knife, (She) acissors, &c., &c."

Only that, in this duet, the quarrel is between Mr. DENNY and Mr. GROSSMITH first as to whether somebody was creeping or crawling.

"He was creeping,
He was crawling,
(D.) Creeping, (G.) crawling, &c., &c., &c."

(D.) Creeping, (G.) crawling, &c., &c., &c.,

And then they differ as to how the man sank in the moat,—Mr.
Denny says, "like a stone;" Mr. Grossmith says, "like a heavy
lump of lead:" and then they alternate "lead," "stone," and so
forth, which will work up, with somic business, into something very
funny, and probably be the hit of the piece. The best serio-comic
song, as far as words go, is, to my thinking, the first one sung by
the Jester. The scenery and the costumes are excellent.

My summary is this:—Cut at least twenty minutes out of the
First Act; take a quarter of an hour out of the Sesond Act, so as
to finish by eleven; never let the Beefeaters go off without a dance;
induce Mr. Temple to abandon all attempt at playing his part
seriously; in fact give every one of them carte blanche ("a very
D'Oyly-Carte task," as the Jester would say) to go in for the old
larks of Mikado & Co., and the Savoyards will feel themselves one
more at home, and their kind friends in front will be satisfied
with everybody generally at the House of Savoy.

Jack in the Stalls.

JACK IN THE STALL.

HORRIBLE LONDON; OR, THE PANDEMONIUM OF POSTERS.



THE Demon set forth in a novel disguise
(All methods of mischief the master-fiend tries)
Quoth he, "There's much ill to be wrought through
the eyes.

I think, without being a boaster, I can give their most 'cute Advertisers a start,

And beat them all round at the Bill-sticker's art.
I will set up in business in Babylon's mart,
As the new Pandemonium Poster!"
So he roved the huge city with wallet at waist,
With a brush, and a stick, and a pot full of paste,
And there wasn't a wall or a hoarding,

A space in a slum, or a blank on a fence,

A spare square of brick in a neighbourhood dense, Or a bit of unoccupied

boarding,
But there the new poster, who
didn't much care

For the menacing legend,
"Bill-stickers beware!"
Right soon was tremen-

dously busy
With placards portentous in
purple and blue, [hue,
Of horrible subject and hideous
Enough to bemuddle an aëro-

Enough to bemuddle an aëronaut's view,
And turn the best steepleJack dizzy.
Oh, the flamboyant flare of
those fiendish designs,
With their sanguine paintsplashes and sinister lines!
Gehenna seemed visibly
claring

glaring

In paint from those villanous daubs. There were men At murderous work in malodorous den,

And ghoul-woman grue-somely staring. The whole sordid drama of

murder and guilt, The steel that strikes home, and the blood that is spilt,

Was pictured in realist

Was pictured in realist colours, With emphasis strong on the black and the red. The fear of the stricken, the glare of the dead; All dreads and disasters and delours.

dolours

That haunt poor Humanity's dismallest state, The horrors of crime and the terrors of fate,

As conceived by the crudest of fancies,
Were limned on these posters

in terrible tints, In the style of the vilest sensational prints

Or the vulgarest spenny romances.

That Bill-sticker paused in his work with a look Which betrayed the black de-

mon, and gleesomely shook His sides in a spasm of

laughter.

Quoth he, with a sinister wag of his head,

"By my horns, the good artist has lavished the red!

This home of coarse horror—

this house of the dead

Looks crimson from base-ment to rafter. How strange that a civilised City—ho! ho!

Tis their fatuous dream to consider it so !-

consider it so !—
Which is nothing too lovely at best, should bestow
Such a liberal licence on spoilers!
These mural monstrosities.

reeking of crime,
Flaring horridly forth amidst
squalor and grime,
Must have an effect which will
tell in good time
Upon legions of dull-witted

toilers.

d,

Taken in through the eyes such suggestions of sin A sympathy morbid and monstrous must win From the grovelling victims of gloom and bad gin,

Who gapingly gaze on them daily;
A fine picture-gallery this for the People!
Oh, while this endures, spite of School Board and Steeple,
My work must be going on gaily!"

A ROYAL APPARITION.

LAST Friday the Times Correspondent at Bucharest, writing about the entertainments given in honour of the Prince of WALES, said—

"In the evening there will be a series of tableaux vivants representing scenes from Shakspears's works. These have been carefully rehearsed under the superintendence of Queen ELIZABETH."

What better person could they have had as an authority except SHAKSPEARE himself? But how did they get her? Were Spiritualists employed? If this be possible, then it is not unlikely that DEURIOLANUS is already shaking in his shoes lest Her Majesty, more ruffled than ever, should pay him an unexpected visit at Drury Lane, and insist on superintending a night revival of the Armada. with ghostly scenery, costumes, and appointments, and a phantom cast. Only thus would her manes be satisfied, and then she herself might be re-hearsed, and conveyed in state to Westminster Abbey, Druriolanus superintending.

In Statu Pupillari.

Young Master Balfour, without an apology, Speaks on philosophy, also theology. To listen his Grandmother will not be loth, When Arthur has learnt just a little of both.

"OLD TOM."—HOLMES at Home, the HOLMES of our Ancestors, in last week's World, must have been to a Ancestors, in last week's World, must have been to a considerable number of persons one of the most interesting of the series. A person, whom the veteran octogenarian Tom Holmes knew, was acquainted with another person who had received an account of the Great Fire of London from an eye-witness! Fancy that! Such evidence at hand would simplify a large portion of the Historian's labour! A cordial welcome to Old Tom. Plenty of spirit in him yet. His health!



A NEW AND AGREEABLE TOY .- THE PARACHUTE.

You tie a big Stone to the Four Corners of a Pocket-handkerchief, and fling it as high as you can. Sometimes the Handkerchief expands AND RETARDS THE FALL OF THE STONE-SOMETIMES IT DOESN'T.

COOD-BYE TO THE (CRICKETING) SEASON.

(A Fond Farevell, something in the style of Praed, composed at the Oval in October by our Own Old Enthusiast.)

GOOD-BYE to the Season !- 'Tis over ! Pavilions no longer are gay; Bat, bowler, and leal Cricket-lover, Are scattered like M.P.'s away.



The Last Ball of the Se

Walter Read bobs no longer his brown end At point, watching Bannerman's "shape;" Gilbert Grace has gone home to dear

Downend,
Bob Abel is bound for the Cape.
For want of a fuller enjoyment,
Till Bat, Ball, and Stumps, can come out,
At Football a few find employment,
But Cricket is done, beyond doubt.

Good-bye to the Season!—The weather Has bowed at the shrine of St. Gamp;

Wet wickets have sodden the leather, And stumps have been pitched in a swamp.
Chill deluges, varied with thunders,
The Cricket-crack's "average" queer.
Bad hits and bad misses are blunders
Scarce blamed in so beastly a year.

There are all sorts of excellent reasons
All round for the prevalent "duck;"
So, Good-bye to this wettest of Seasons! Its memories are mainly of muck.

Good-bye to the Season!—The chances
That filled even champions with gloom;
The rascally tricks and rare dances
Devised by the demon of doom.
The "bad hits" that should have been
"beauties," health "falses".

The good ones so palpably "flukes"
The fielders so slack in their duties,
The Captains so tart in rebukes; The cocksures who dropped bobs and tanners On matches like Surrey v. Notts; The consequent breaches of manners; The subsequent downfall of " pots.

Good-bye to the Season !—the rages When second-rate teams came out strong; When ABEL-for one-stayed in ages, Or READ missed his tip and went wrong; When clever and "champion" Surrey The Cornstalks thrice tackled in vain-

Lost twice by bad fortune and flurry,
And missed winning once through the rain;
Whilst Gloucester, whom Surrey could swallow,
And Leicester whom Gloucester could eat,
Both licked the Australians hollow.
"Good old Surrey" wound up with defeat.

Good-bye to the Season !- the "Terror" Good-bye to the Season!—the "Terror"
Who put such a break on the ball;
Yes, TURNER can bowl, "and no error,"
And FERRIS makes many sing small.
But England has no need to fluster;
She is not deficient in "stars";
Still, when her best men she can muster,
She wins in these willowy wars. [kill] Still, when her best men she can muster.

She wins in these willowy wars. [killing!
There's LOHMANN, how straight and how
He'll "hold up our end," please the pigs;
And slashing McDonnell's scarce willing To stand many overs of BRIGGS

Good-bye to the Season!—A wetter 'un Seldom spoiled "place," "pitch," a But here's to our evergreen veteran ["pace Still to the front-GILBERT GRACE!
The Doctor "stands nominal second, But who plays so often as he? Still W. G. must be reckoned
As virtual top of the tree.
The theme of all Cricket-feed speeches,

The pet of pavilion and field, His pre-eminence no one impeaches, To none need our "Champion" yi

Good-bye to the Season!—Another
Will come with the coming of May;
Though the new county boundaries bother,
The cry of the boys will be "Play!"
Will it come like this terrible "tryer?" Will it come like this terrible "tryer?"
Or come very much the reverse?
Will its scorings be lower or higher?
Will its weather be better or worse?
Will it favour the bowler or batter?
Will it come with dry turf and clear sky,
Or washy and squashy?—No matter:—
Good-bye to the Season—good-bye!

DUE NORTH.

Shakspearian—Household—Luncheon—Family Party—Mysterious —Pony—Another—Perilous—Down again—Rest—Thankful.

Pony—Another—Perilous—Down again—Rest—Thankful.

From what I hear of the names of the servants inside and outside the house, such as Duncar, Donald, Ross, Donaldellar, it appears that, with the exception of Macduff, Banquo, and the Three Witches, we have pretty nearly the entire cast of Macbeth. The part of Macbeth is filled by the chief housemaid and housekeeper, whose name is Macbeth. Whether she is Mary, or Jennie, or Effic, I do not know,—and, by the way, what was Lady Macbeth's Christian name? Her husband never mentions it, and the only term of endearment by which he addresses her is, "dearest chuck." Why "chuck"?

Our Macbeth at the shooting-lodge—a tall, good-looking lass, about thirty or so, a strapping wench with an elegant figure,—would forcibly resent being called a "chuck" by anyone, even if there were a male Macbeth on the premises who had acquired a right to do so. She can walk with the swing of a man, pull stroke or bow in a boat, or

who had acquired a right to do so. She can walk with the swing of a man, pull stroke or bow in a boat, or scull it single-handed across the lake, if need be; is a good shot with a rifle, can do tailoring or cobblering to perfection,—"odd jobs executed at the shortest possible notice,"—and has a ready eye to the wants and comforts of all the visitors in both departments—the House and the Annexe—of the establishment over which she presides. She is invaluable: and though in the Annexe we do not see much of her, yet it is to her that we have to make known our

though in the Annexe we do not see much of her, do?"
yet it is to her that we have to make known our
wants, which, once mentioned, are immediately supplied. In the
House itself, on a busy evening, when the sportsmen have come in
late, and everybody is, more or less, hurrying up in their dressing
for dinner, and everybody has mislaid something, and no one can
find anything, then down the passages, from the backelors' quarters,
and from the rooms where the young ladies are, come the reiterated
cries, as if they were uttered by the Apparitions that rise out of the
Witches' cauldron, of "MACBETH! MACBETH!! MACBETH!!" And
instead of losing her presence of mind, and evelaimine, thurriedly. whether candron of MACBETH! MACBETH! And instead of losing her presence of mind, and exclaiming, flurriedly, "Had I three ears, I'd hear thee!" she pleasantly replies, in her strong Scotch brogue, "All right, Sir, I'm coming directly!"—and come she does to everybody in turn, and everybody in turn is more than satisfied. A wonderful woman.

than satisfied. A wonderful woman.

There are three young ladies under the care, apparently, of the Good Aunt. I am not introduced, but they all say, as the Wicked Uncle did, "How dee do" to me, at lunch time, and address one another by their Christian names, MILLIE, EVELYN, and the youngest and smallest is MADGE. Who they are, what their surnames may be, whether they are sisters, wives, or cousins belonging to the other guests, I haven't the slightest idea. It seems to be taken for granted in this present company, which is, to all intents and purposes, a family party, that there is no such being as a stranger in existence within these four walls.

"You should nave gone out fishing this morning, MILLIE," says the Baron to the young lady.

the Baron to the young lady.
"She couldn't," replies EVELYN, "as I wanted her to walk out with me."

with me.

"She couldn't," replies EVELYN, "as I wanted her to walk out with me."

"Good Aunt," says D. B., "how are you? Madge, you'll have to march out with the five o'clock tea, if we drive."

"If you're going to drive, I 'd rather walk, if I may," says Miss Madge, appealing to the Laird, "the trap shakes so!"

Whereat there's a laugh all round, and the very young lady colours up and looks frightened. The Laird hastens to the rescue.

"It's not 'driving' in a trap," he explains, smilingly, "the grouse are driven by beaters, while we stand behind butts. I'll show you the butts; you can see them from the window with a good glass."

"How on earth should Madge know your sporting terms?" says the Good Aunt interposing. "It's her first day up here!"

On careful and separate inquiry, I find that none of the party have ever met one another before last week, and the young ladies only arrived yesterday. The people who brought them went away at once. They are "left here till called for."

The talk is all sport: either shooting or fishing. Everyone explains to everyone else why some particularly easy shot "didn't come off," and some one is always saying. "Ah, I oughtn't to have missed that!"

Grannie, He did not catch that trout, and so, though he kept on changing his flies every half hour, and so, though he kept on changing his flies every half hour, and waded up to his middle, yet,

"He did not catch that trout,

Brave Boys

"He did not catch that trout, Brave Boys He did not catch that trout !"

And so he will give the trout a holiday, and go out shooting this

It has been pouring with rain. It is pouring now, says the Laird, "we shall have showers all the afternoon." "Showers" here are, I find, pelting storms which wet you through

in a couple of minutes.

"In this rain," says the Baron, walking to the window, "we're sure to put up something on that hill yonder."

Happy Thought.—If I go with them, I'm sure to "put up something,"—my umbrella.

Happy Thought.—If I go with them, I'm sure to "put up something,"—my umbrella.

"You can have the pony, if you like to ride up to where we're driving," says the Laird to me. On consideration, being fond of air and exercise, I accept. The pony is ordered, and I anticipate a good gallop over the hills and far away, two or three hours' exercise, happy return home, rub down, bath, change, and splendid appetite for dinner.

They start, all the party, except the ladies, and disappear. The ladies melt away and become invisible. I am to join the sportsmen as soon as I like. Of course mounted, I shall easily catch up the infantry, so I tell the youthful gillie, DUNCAN, who comes to inform me "the pony's ready saddled," that I'll start in a quarter of an

hour.

hour. I follow the boy to where the pony is. Pony! it is a rough-looking sort of cart-horse, over fifteen hands, with an old saddle, loose girths, and a single snaffle rein that looks as if it would break with the slightest strain. However, I said I would go: and perhaps the "pony" is better than he looks.

In less than five minutes I find he isn't. His pace is a quick slouching walk with rather a nautical roll in it. His head droops heavily, as if he were sadly weary of this sort of life. He is led by the hil Duncan, who carries a switch, as if he were a donkey-boy and I was having sixpennorth on the sands: and we are ignominiously following another "pony," which is being personally conducted by an elder gillie. This other pony is also over fifteen hands, and across its back are swung panniers for game, baskets holding five o'clock tea an elder gillie. This other pony is also over fifteen hands, and across its back are swung panniers for game, baskets holding five o'clock tea and other provisions, and such a lot of wraps and waterproofs as to suggest the idea of the baggage pony being a "clothes horse." I have no one to say this to, so keep it to myself and appreciate it dismally. It is just as if the sportsmen were the army on active service, and I had been classed among the impedimenta. Perhaps, I think to myself, things will be better presently as we go haps, uphill.

hapsy Thought.—"Speculate for the rise."

Nothing of the sort. The ground gets worse and worse. Each fresh bog is boggier than the last, and the higher we get, the steeper is the climbing, and the more perilous my situation. The elder gillie plods on his way, morose and taciturn. The younger, my Donkey-boy, blithe, but silent. It is a melancholy party; quite funereal. The coats and wraps, slung across first horse, are suggestive of the lifeless body of some one whom we have shot, and whom we are going to bury up in the hills, and I, mounted, am either a prisoner or chief mourner, it doesn't much matter which. The boy gives up leading the cart-horse-pony, and strolls on with the tacitum gillie. I try to engage the elder gillie, from a distance, in conversation, but he won't be engaged. I want to interest him in myown personal safety, so that if anything happened, by which I mean if my horse fell head-foremost into a bog or tumbled down sideways over a narrow ledge,—my knees shudder at the thought,—he, being on friendly terms with me, and living in dim hopes of half-a-crown, would rush to my assistance.

friendly terms with me, and living in dim hopes of half-a-crows, would rush to my assistance.

Happy Thought (of the gillie). "Speculating for the fall." (My fall.) But gillie senior refuses to be interested; he won't talk, not even of the weather. The youthful gillie, Duncan, follows his example so closely that he won't be communicative even to the extent of informing me what sort of day it was yesterday, and what amount of sport they had had the day before that. Wilson Barrett, with his favourite "How long" flashes across my mind at several critical moments. "How long" will this saddle remain on the horse? and "How long" shall I remain on the saddle? Till accident used o part. us do part.

Elder and younger gillie silent, as if overcome by some great grief, or groaning in spirit against their Saxon oppressors, trudge on, jumping without effort from rock to rock, the elder one jerking the horse's leading-rein, encouraging it to land on sharp projections, and to founder desperately through morasses. I watch the proceedings with fearful interest, knowing that whatever happens to the horse in front of me must, it is ten to one, happen to mine. But the horse in front carries only waterproofs, empty bags, and materials for five o'clock tea, while mine carries me. As we cross a torrent, my horse balancing itself on the pointed tops of rocks which just peep out of the damp moss, and where a slip from any given point must precipitate us into the depths below, I am inclined to whisper nervously in the horse's ear, with a view to inspiring him with confidence, "Remember you carry Cæsar and his fortunes!" and I heartily wish Cæsar were anywhere else at this moment. were anywhere else at this moment.

It is no sort of use attempting to guide the beast. I try to comfort

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myself with the reflection that the horse knows the country, and myst have been up here any number of times. The circumstances on former occasions may have been totally different, and one circumstance certainly is quite different now, and that is, that this is the first time he has ever travelled across these hills with me on his back,—and, I add to myself most fervently,—it will be the last

on his back,—and, I add to myself most fervently,—it will be the last! I rode up here for exercise, anticipating an increase of temperature, skin-acting, and everything beneficial for a person with certain gouty tendencies. But here we are, creeping up the mountain's side "h, and I am feeling colder and colder. I would get off and walk if my boots were not too thin for the slosh, and I foresee catching a severe cold. After an hour and a half of this amusement, and catching sight of the shooters only for a moment when they were all too occupied to talk—aspecially the Wicked Uncle, who is craftily lying in wait for a grouse behind a butt built of peat, like a brigand looking out for the solitary traveller,—I come to the determination that, directly I see anything resembling a road, I will descend and run down it as hard as I can, at the risk of dialocating my ankles, in order to circulate my blood, which must have gone down nearly to zero.

Hooral! "I reliable I Thalatta!" I mean The Road! The Road! "Let us take to the Road, Boys!" Highwayman's song in The Beggar's Opera. It is not exactly a road, but, when the winter is over, and it is no longer a water-course, it is evidently used as a road by the natives, who must be very easily satisfied. Small rates ought to have been charged for mending this road, and the biggest rate ever known on it is the pace at which I am going down when once fairly started.

The theorem of the traitives willie and the dismease of Durkers.

biggest rate ever known on it is the pace at which I am going down when once fairly started.

To the astonishment of the taciturn gillie and the dismay of Duncan the Donkey-boy who had charge of me, I slide off the horse on to the ground, and run. They halloa to me. No—not back again—I wave my hand. They are dumfounded. I feel like a prisoner escaping; and they, as I glanne back at them, look as the guardians must have looked, to whose care the historical Royal Personage was entrusted, when he said, "Good-day, Gentlemen!" and their horses being blown, galloped away in the direction of England, Home, and Beauty!

Free! Free! Free! Rever again on the fifteen-hand cart-horse-pony for me. Free! Free! Splash—dash—dash—dash—into the ruck, into

pony for me. Free! Free! Splash—dash—alash—dash—into the ruck, into the muck, into the water, over the stones, whack, crack, not "down on my back," but going as if I were wearing the seven-leagued boots, until the grand perspiration effect is produced. I have the Dowley of the control of th perspiration effect; is produced. I hear the Donkey-by pursuing. He has been sent after me by the Laird, who, he shouts to me, breathlessly, is very angry with him for leaving me to find my way alone. But, for all his belloaine I would the state of th had my way atone. Dut, for an ms holloaing, I won't stop, and he catches me up by a short cut, and on we go together, panting, until I come to a dead stop in the valley, and am anxious to know the shortest cut to the Lodge, as the rain, which has been

the Lodge, as the rain, which has been threatening proceedings for some time past, is beginning to fall, and, if I get wet in this fever-heat, I tremble for the consequences. The youthful gillie points out the road,—over the meadow, round by the swing-bridge. He will go there by another and a shorter route. Allez! On we goes again! He his way, I mine. The big rain-drops become bigger. "Speed thee on, my bonnie Shanks's mare, I have trusted thee many a time before, and will again!"

and will again!"

The last mile is always the longest. Then the swing-bridge—
a narrow plank hung on wires—a miniature suspension Hammersmith, swaying like a slack rope as I cross it cautiously. BLONDIN
for ever! The opposite bank of the river is gained! Saved! SLONDIN
The rain! "Let it come down." And, as I quote Macbeth,
MACEETH herself, the ever-vigilant housekeeper, sees me flying
past the front-door ("You should see my coat-tails flying!"),
and calls out, "Ye'll just be soaked through. I'll send you your
hot water,"—and so she does; and in another half-hour I am comfortably seated in an arm-chair before the fire in the smoking-room,
with a pine and the first book I can lay my hand on just to enjoy fortably seated in an arm-chair before the fire in the smoking-room, with a pipe and the first book I can lay my hand on, just to enjoy a quiet read and rest in the two hours that remain to me before dinner. The library here is not a large one. There are two shilling novels, Jorrocke's Jasunts, BRADSHAW's latest publication, and The New Newgate Calendar, illustrated, in two volumes. It is one of these last-mentioned that is now in my hand; and it is this that, an hour afterwards, drops with a bang on the floor, as I wake up and see D. B.'s face at the window, as he cries out, "Here we are again! How are you?"

OUR BOOKING-OFFICE.



I HAVE just finished Mapleson's Memoirs. Poor dear Colonel!

n''old soldier'' of course and yet how ill-used he must have been by everyone. His stories are told with touching simplicity, and many would be highly amusing if the reader could only get rid of the feeling that he is listening to the lamb bleating out how he was shorn, and how the wind, always edifficult to raise was rarely if ever so difficult to raise, was rarely if ever tempered to his poor back.

Pity the sorrows of a poor old Man-ager, whom Opera brought down to the floor, Who means to come up smiling when he can, And is but looking for just one chance more.

Skipping over several Pages.

Skipping over several Pages.

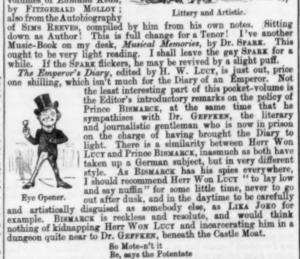
Path is a wicked and ungrateful world with which the guileless Colonel has had to deal. He cherishes the tenderest memories of his collaborator and whilom principal, the late E. T. Smith, who was not Policeman X., but an ex-policeman afterwards Operatic Manager, and perfectly adores the generous and sympathetic Dwa, formerly La Marquise De Caux, now Mme. Nicolini, and known to all the world as Path. If her agreements with other Managers are similar to the one published in Vol. II. of the shorn Impresario's Memoirs, then I pity the Operatic Managers. Of course a Dive has a natural and inalienable right to do the best for herself she can. There will always be somebody to take up a Divea like Path, as long as the public, generally but not always, as has been recently proved, will pay high prices to hear a brilliant singer unsupported, in preference to giving a reasonable amount for a good all-round performance. It would be worth while to compare with the Maplesonian Memoirs Willers Brale's recollections, published, I think, some years ago, which told of a time when Operatic artists were a triffe more Bohemian, but infinitely more genial and obliging to their employers.

The Fourth Volume of the Marshall and Invine Shakspeare is out. Measrs. Marshall, and Invine Academic Shakspeare is

The Fourth Volume of the MARSHALL and IRVING Shakspeare is out. Messrs. MARSHALL and IRVING have constituted themselves

into a sort of Editorial Committee, "with power Committee, "with power to add to their number;" and consequently several collaborators now appear on the scene whose names were not in the original cast. The notes are useful and interesting, as far as I've been able to dip into them. I anticipate much amusement from the two volumes of Edmund Kean, by FITZGERALD MOLLOY; also from the Autobiography





So Mote-n't it Be, says the Potentate

Who now has the honour of subscribing himself everybody's most sincerely, the Musical-Political-Artistic-and-Literary BARON DE BOOK WORMS.



A FLAGRANT INJUSTICE.

(The " United Service Unemployed" Club Smoking-Room. Noon.)

Behold a dozen honest, enlightened, and able-bodied Britons—Retired Generals and Admirals, Half-pay Colonels, Superannuated Majors and Captains, not to mention leisured young Guardsmen, all in the full possession of their faculties—all bored to extinction (except those who are 80 fortunate as to be fast asleep), and all cruelly debarred FROM THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING ON A JURY OF THEIR COUNTRYMEN! WHY?

LITTLE JEM'S DOOM:

OR, THE PROVIDENT PARENTS' RESOURCE.

(Brief Low-Life Tragedy, produced lately with only too much success on the stage of the Great Metropolitan Theatre.)

ACT I .- A London Slum. Rival Insurance Touts discovered, re commending the advantages of their respective enterprises to the notice of two Provident Parents.

First Rival Tout (summing up). Well, there you are. You pays a mere pittance monthly, and, if anything happens to the little one, why you has him buried respectable, with a regular first-class funeral, as should be a comfort to the feelings of a decent couple of parents like you, and quite reconcile you, so to speak, to the loss of

Second Rival Tout. And if you put into our concern, mind you. the money you gets more than covers the expenses. When all's paid, you'll find you've got a tidy bit over for yourselves. You might make about two pound out of it, and that ought to console you. does most of 'em

First Rival Tout. But we don't ask no nasty questions, you know

if so happens you have to put in your claim.

Second Rival Tout. No. If you pays your first premium to-day, and comes next week for the burial-money, we stumps up like men,

we do, and don't make no fuss.

First Rival Tout. I tell you what: our concern has been a real blessin' to thousands, that it has.

Provident Male Parent (convinced). Well, there's summat in what you chaps say, and I don't mind tryin' it on Little Jem here. (Addressing Provident Female Parent.) What do you say, Missus? Jem has been a silin' lately, and if he means goin', I'd like to see him shoved away proper; 'specially when there's that two pound over to be got out of the job. (His' Missus' nods assent.) All right, Mate, then. I'm game. Make out the ticket.

[First Rival Tout "makes out the ticket," and Little Jen's life is forthwith insured in the "General Compolitan Infants' Coffin Supply Association" as Act-drop descends.

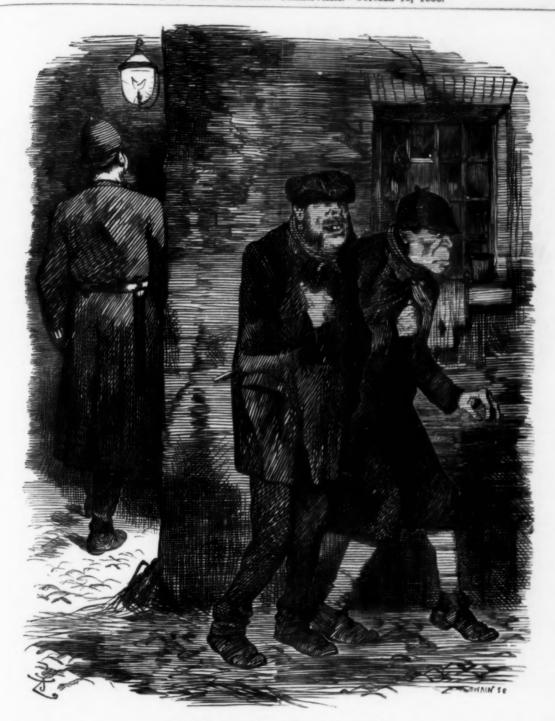
ACT II.—A Coroner's Court. An Inquest has just been held on the body of Little Jen, who has recently died under somewhat suspicious circumstances. The fact that he has for some time past been gradually sinking in an ill-ventilated back room, purposely neglected by his Provident Parents, has not come out in evidence: nor has it transpired that they have familiarised themselves with the idea of his decease, and, seeing it will not only relieve them of the cost of his maintenance, but also put some ready-money into their pockets, have come to regard it as a consummation devoutly to be desired. So it has come about that though Little Jen has been deliberately done to death by his businessike natural protectors, the verdict has not been one of Murder, or even of Manslaughter, but of "Death from Natural causes." The Coroner, however, assuring the Jury that he will see that their recommendation, that the Government should take some steps to legislate for the protection of infant life from the some steps to legislate for the protection of infant life from the baneful influence of such Societies as the "General Cosmopolitan Infants' Coffin Supply Association," shall be forwarded to the proper quarter, the Scene closes.

proper quarter, the Scene closes.

Provident Male Parent (who has received the burial-money, and is returning from the funeral, addressing his "Missus.") Well, that's done, though we ain't made quite two pound by it. Still one pound sixteen ain't bad, with little Jem out of the way, and all. (Confidentially.) I tell you what it is, Missus, I votes we take out a ticket for our Sax and lanky Joz. When times is black, it ain't half a bad resource. I'll just look up that Insurance chap again.

[Is left meditating "murder" as Curtain descends.

"A 'PLEASURE-HORSE' used to do double duty in former days," observed Mrs. Raw; "and for my part I regret that Wives no longer ride on pillories behind their Husbands."



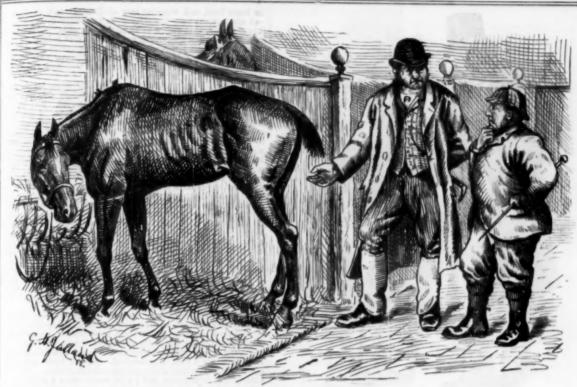
WHITECHAPEL, 1888.

First Member of "Criminal Class," "Fine Body o' men, the per-leece!"

Second Ditto, "Uncommon fine!—It's lucky for hus as there's sech a bloomin' few on 'em!!!"

"I have to observe that the Metropolitan Police have not large reserves doing nothing and ready to meet emergencies; but every man has his duty assigned to him, and I can only strengthen the Whitechapel district by drawing men from duty in other parts of the Metropolis."—Sir Charles Warren's Statement. "There is one Policeman to every seven hundred persons."—Vids Recent Statistics.





OUR NEW M.F.H.

Kennel Huntsman. "A Man brought this here last Night, but he didn't leave no Message to say if it were for Ridin' [Delight of our new M.F.H., Mr. Popple, who has given £40 for it to carry a Whip. OR BILIN'.

ROBERT'S LONG WACATION.

LARST weak I told you I'd kontinuew in my nex. This is my nex and I rekummense. The nex day, it looking rayther inclined to be fine, as if the rain was beginning to get rayther ashamed of itself for doing its werry best to spile all the crops, and all surten peepel's tempers, and other peepel's best close, I perswaded my wife to go with me for a wark on the bewtifool Tems Embankment, and there we strolled about in the lovely gardins for a nour or two, and I wentured to say, as the tooth ake was much better, that the nice looking surroundins, with the River a flowing by, reminded me of that appy day in Grinnidge Park, when I arsked her to share my umbel fortunes for wheel or for wo. She was ewidently pleased, and a smile lited up her ample feeters, when, as ill-luck woud have it, jest at that werry mement, down came one of them orful downpores as seems to have bin trying all this summer to beat the record, and allers succeeding. bin trying all this summer to beat the record, and allers succeeding.

Well, after that day's xperience. I must confeas that herefolded.

mement, down came one of them orful downpores as seems to have bin trying all this summer to beat the record, and allers succeeding. Well, after that day's xperience, I must confess that, bewtifool as is the well kep Gardens, and the floing River, and the nice cumferal seats, the Tems Embankment is not a convenient plaice to seleck to seats, the Tems Embankment is not a convenient plaice to seleck to keep the remaining storm of rain and thunder and litening, and with her best dress on. So we have not repeated that xperiment. The nex day we spent at the Great British Mewseum, and we both agreed that it seemed a great pitty that the Country was so werry pore that they coundn't afford to have the Stattys mended. There was several of the most bewtifoollest of 'em all as had either a harm, or a leg, or an and or two, broke rite off, and, aperiently, no attemp being maid to mend any on 'em. Them as is without heds of coarse represents peeple as was beheded afore their warious deaths, so the same fault cannot farely be found with them. We coundn't, neether on us, at all hunderstand why so many on 'em was not allowed to dress theirselves propperly afore they had their stattys taken. Mrs. Robert ewen going so far as to say as she thort as sum on 'em, speshally the ladies, ort to have bin sahamed of thereselves, let alone the chance of catching werry bad colds.

Of course it rained pretty hard before we got home; but we had not werry far to go, so we did not git so werry wet this time, fortingly. The day after was much like the day afore, so, as I coundn't go out, I purtended to be a reading, and slep a good deal of the

time; but, when night came, we went to the Theater, so as to have a nice evening's emusement, to cheer us both hup. Ah, that was a nice evening's emusement that was!

I went carefully through the warious statements in the Noose-papers, and picked out a Play that as the *Times* said "thrilled the House!" and, as the *Advertiser* said, "would attract all play-goers;" and, as the *Daily Noose* said, "held the audience breath-less." So off we went to the "Liesee'em," and there we sat for a hole hower a seeing sitch a xhibishun of disgusting orders as we note nower a seeing stren a knotshuh of disgusting offers as we neether of us never seed afore and fondly opes as we shall never see no more. We coudn't stand no more of it, but went out in the middel of the werry wust part, feeling quite hill, and warked home a grumbling and a growling all the way at being so shamefoolly deseaved by the jockular papers, and wundring how any man coud have taken sitch a lot of trubbel to both look and hact more like a

wild been sten a not of trubber to both roos and nat have mean wild been than a man.

However, a nice little bankwet that my partner had prepaird as a surprise, and a partickler nice glass of ot Rum and water, enabled us to supfull of hoysters insted of "full of orrors," as sumbody says, and we was abel to bannish 'em from our thorts and to sleep the sleep of the hinnercent.

ROBERT.



REALISTIC.

Amaleur Stage Manager (in black hat), "WE'VE SETTLED IT. WE'RE ING TO PLAY 'THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN, AND I'VE CAST YOU FOR MELTER MOSS-YOU KNOW, THE OLD JEW. SPLENDID PART!"

Second Amateur (in white hat). "OH, I COULDN'T DO IT, MY BOY-SHOULD HAVE TO WEAR A FALSE NOSE!"

TWO VIEWS OF BOULOGNE.

(A Page from a Diary kept at Monte Carlo Minor.)

(A Page from a Diary kept at Monte Carlo Minor.)

Monday.—Arrived by the Mary Beatrics, one of the best boats of the South-Eastern Railway Company. Really delightful. Breakfast in London at 8'30, catch the 9'40 Express, and be in Boulogne in time for luncheon! Everything so fresh and foreign. Glad to see the red trousers of the soldiers; and the place itself so cheery. The Casino admirable. Capital Band. Theatre, too, very amusing. Light Opera, nicely sung. Remarkably good. Seen worse things in Paris. And then the Chemin defer! Of course object to gambling, on principle; but what possible harm can there be in risking a few francs? I did, and won ten by embarking my fortunes on the blanc.

Tuesday.—Greatly disappointed. Boulogne is not at all like what it used to be. "So English, you know." Too English, in fact, and not good English either. More like bad Bayswater. The French soldiers, too, are all undersized, and the place itself desolation in its most desolate form. Hotels closed, and houses to be let or sold everywhere. The

too, are all undersized, and the place itself desolation in its most desolate form. Hotels closed, and houses to be let or sold everywhere. The Casino has certainly deteriorated. Band small, and not particularly skilful. Theatre pitiful. Saw some dreadful piece, in five Acts, that apparently was being played by amateurs. Most feeble performance I have ever witnessed. And then the Chemin de fer! I repeat, I object to gambling on principle; but granted that it is not wrong, what possible good can there be in risking a few france? I did, and lost twenty by smbarking my favince on the second

the brass bars, and stopping now at Brussels, now at Vienna at one moment near the red, at the next close to the white. It is so simple, that even a child might play at it. So different from Monte Carlo. Everyone knows what that is like. There fortunes are really lost, and suicides are of common occurrence.

fortunes are really lost, and suicides are of common occurrence. But at Boulogne it is merely an amusing distraction. I don't pretend to play myself, but I certainly won five france by showing a partiality to "Londres."

Thursday.—I am not at all surprised that some people call this place "Beastly Boulogne." It certainly deserves the name. The port at low tide is absolutely awful. No; if you want bracing air, go to Brighton or Folkestone. I am told that interested persons declare that Boulogne is growing, and owes much of its prosperity to the establishment of gambling at the Casino. This is absolute rubbish. I know of no more painful sight than to watch the eager faces of the players at the monotonous model train clicks with its wire against the brass rails. The time has arrived for writing plainly. The gambling is the curse of the place. Stories are heard on all sides of money squandered and lost. The mode of playing is so simple that even a poor innocent child can risk and lose as high a stake as five francs. It is so different from Monte Carlo. Everyone knows what that is like. There you can avoid playing if you wish, and may enjoy life at one of the loveliest watering-places in the world. But Boulogne is vastly different. A two-penny-halfpenny place, that only a few years ago was A two-penny-halfpenny place, that only a few years ago was the refuge of the fraudulent bankrupt! Boulogne, indeed! And the gambling too is a hard business. It is no idle distrac-

the refuge of the fraudulent bankrupt! Boulogne, indeed! And the gambling too is a hard business. It is no idle distraction. You see, day after day, men, women and children standing round the baize table losing all they have! It is a dreadful sight! A really dreadful sight! I don't pretend to play myself, but I certainly lost five-and-twenty france by plunging blindly on "Bruxelles."

Friday.—Most amusing. Spent a day in looking about Went up to the Mairie to see a civil marriage. Very fine affair. Carriages and carpets. The bride a good-looking young lady, and the bridegroom decidedly distingué. Evidently persons of good position. People lunching at the hotel also interesting. One gentleman's face I recognised. Sure I have seen him somewhere before and under pleasant circumstances. I do not think he can be a parson, and yet he would adorn a pulpit; and that reminds me,—I wonder why the clergy fight shy of the Casino. They might do much good, I think, if they visited it more frequently. Now, for instance, they might dance occasionally at a Bal de Famille. Quite a nice set, some people in evening dress, and one or two wearing gloves. Had heard that the riff-raff from the fast hotels congregated at these gatherings. Not at all. I don't think so. And the games of chance. Really nothing at all. Merely a pretence at baccarat. Could not hurt anyone. As for the Chemin de fer, well, I can only say that I have cleared thirty francs from first to last. I am thinking of taking a deck-cabin on the Louise Dagmar (excellent boat, always punctual) for my passage back.

Saturday.—Well, really it is too much! Just discovered that

thinking of taking a deck-cabin on the Louise Dagmar (excel-lent boat, always punctual) for my passage back.

Saturday.—Well, really it is too much! Just discovered that
the bride at whose civil marriage I assisted yesterday was a
scullery-maid from a local restaurant! And the gentleman of
prepossessing appearance who lunched at the same table with
me, and who I at a first glance took for a parson, turns out to
be a croupier! I should not have been in the least surprised to be a croupier! I should not have been in the least surprised to have seen him dancing at the Bal de Famille, if his duties had not required his attendance elsewhere. Such a Bal de Famille! Fishermen dancing with fisherwomen; and on my word they seemed the "best set." The rest of the company reminded me of a dull evening at the Hall-by-the-Sea. And the gambling! People writing to the papers about Monte Carlo when Boulogue is ten times as bad! Baccarat played every night and ruining scores, hundreds! As for the Chemin de fer, well—I can only say that I lost three hundred france at a single sitting! I am going heme at once by that nightmare of my childhood, the allgoing home at once by that nightmare of my childhood, the all-the-way-by-sea-and-river London Boat!

French Rosycrucians.

UNDER the exalted patronage of the Comtesse DE PARIS, the "Rose of France" has been adopted by the Royalists as their distinctive flower, and they have instituted among themselves a new Society, entitled, the "League of the Rose." An apt addition of the rose to the fleur-de-lys—a new alliance of lilies and roses. The "League of the Rose" may be considered the French counterpart of the British Primrose League. Revolutions we know are not made with rose-water: but the rose good can there be in risking a few francs? I did, and lost twenty by embarking my fortunes on the rouge.

Wednesday.—Really Boulogne improves on acquaintance. I am not well-be and roses. The "League of the Rose" may be considered the French counterpart of the British Primrose League. Revolutions, we know, are not made with rose-water; but the rose tainly delightful—I think finer than Brighton or Folkestone. I know appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a cherry say that the place has fallen off terribly since the establishment of the rose water is the primrose League. Revolutions, we know, are not made with rose-water; but the rose others say that the place has fallen off terribly since the establishment of the rose.

Franch counterpart of the Rose may be considered the french counterpart of the British Primrose League. Revolutions, we know, are not made with rose-water; but the rose appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appears to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a League appear to have been appropriated to serve the purpose of a nna ite. tent iere ice. m't by

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OUR JAPANNERIES. No. 18.



ON THE STUMP.

CHURCH AND STAGE.—Strictly speaking, the word "Mummer" cannot be applied to an Actor, and both in the title Mummer's Wife and in the recent article "Mummer Worship," with which Mr. IRVING and in the recent article "Mummer Worship," with which Mr. IRVING (Congress simply because he would have been brought in contact "did well," though perhaps not wisely, "to be angry," the word "Mummer" is used contemptaously of the regular professional Actor. But such application shows ignorance. "Momerie" is defined in the best French theatrical dictionary as, "Mascarade, bouffonnerie, déguisement de gens masqués pour aller danser, jouer, se réjouir." And the first Mummer was Momus, the professional jester, the Merry And the first Mummer was Momus, the professional jester, the Merry Andrew, the Tom Fool of the Court of King Jove "in the air, Of the skies Lord Mayor." Let those whom the Mummer's cap fits, wear it, but most certainly neither Mr. IRVING nor Mr. WYNDHAM need be

BLAMBLES Batrachian, whom poetic fancy Dowers with evil gifts and powers sinister, Opties

glance ma-lefic, labial orifice Sputtering

poison! Could not thy kindred go-bemouches

ODE TO THAT TOAD.

[A letter in the Times gave an account of a Toad found in a bed of clay, and supposed to have lived there since the Glacial period.]



"Owed to a Creditor."

(far less sensible) Leave thee alone a bit, refrain from ranking Thee with the frog-shower, fish-fall, huge sea-serpent, And great gooseberry !

Thirty thousand years in clay? Ridiculous! Fie on the fudge about times prehistoric! You a survival faint from epochs glacial? Credat Judaus

Bet them a bob that you are no Toad-TANNER, Foolish enough to practise secular fasting, Cramped in a clay-cleft without worms, or nourishment Entomological

Man is a clayey creature, O Batrachian! He it is who, caved in his crass credulity, Lives through the ages a purblind existence Toad-in-the-hole-y!

VOCES POPULI.

AT TABLE D'HÔTE IN THE HIGHLANDS.

Scene—A long dinner-table, garnished with spiky plants languishing in their native pots. Visitors discovered consulting Wine-list, which they do with knitted brows for some minutes, and then order whiskey and soda. German Waiters get in one another's way, and quarrel in whispers. Late comers enter, either sneakingly, as if inclined to apologise to the Head-waiter, or swaggering, as if they didn't care particularly about dining, but had just looked in. Conversation is conducted in a low and decorporations. ous tone.

The Diffident Diner to read for the—ah—Mennu?

The Neighbour. Eh?

The D. D. Would you kindly pass the—er—(changes his mind about the pronunciation)—May-nu?

The Neighbour (blankly). I'm not seein' ony of it about here,

The D. D. I was only asking you if you could reach the—(decides to alter it once more)—M'noo?

The Neighbour (blankly). I'm not seein' ony of it about here,

The D. D. I was only asking you if you could reach the—(decides to alter it once more)—M'noo? to alter it once more)—M'noo?

The Neighbour. Will I rax ye the hwhat?

The D. D. (meekly). The Bill of Fare, please.

The Old Maid (to Elderly Bachelor). And what have you been

The Char Main (to Etherry Bachelor). And what have you been doing to-day?

The Elderly Bachelor. Well, I took the train to Tay—Tay something or other—and on by coach through Glen—Glen—(gives it up)—foozle-um, to Loch—bless my soul, I shall forget my own name next!

and by the Falls of Glare? falls of Bower? (I can't remember all their confounded names!), and back by the Pass at the other end of

their confounded names!), and back by the lass at the other old of the ioch, y' know.

The O. M. A charming trip! I'm quite longing to do it myself!

Provincial Paterfamilias (across the table, to Friend). Oh, yes, I've got all my youngsters here; they like the knocking about from coach to steamer and that. I dunno that they notice the scenery much, but (tolerantly) it does 'em no 'arm!

A Pretty Sister (to Plain Ditto). JENNY, don't look that way—there's that man who sat next to us at Oban, don't you remember? I don't want to have to bow to him!

chops). I give you my word I've not tasted salmon, grouse, or venison, not once all the time I've been in Scotland!

A Stout Man (sympathetically). Nor have I, Sir! That is—at the Skinflint Hotel they did give us what they were pleased to call a "Salmi of Grouse"; but what d'ye think it was, Sir?—four backs as bare as my hand—and the rest of it rabbit!

German Waiter. Vill you dake frite fish or whide fish?

The Grumbler. Oh, whichever you like! (To the Stout Man.)
They put it down as "Whiting," and "Fillet of Sole," and all that—but it's never anything but fried 'addock all the time!

The Stout Man. I'll tell you a thing that happened to me at the Haggisburgh Hotel—I asked for some marmalade at breakfast, and—you'll never guess what they brought me—treacle, Sir—as I'm a living man, they brought me treacle!

[And so on ad, lib.

-you'll never guess what they brought me—treacte, Sir—as I'm a living man, they brought me treacte!

The Gushing Visitor. What charming Menus—with pictures on them, too! And see, what's printed on the top: "A Gift to the Guest." I do call that so nice of them, George, don't you?

George. I do indeed, my dear. I should feel uneasy at profiting by such reckless and almost oriental hospitality, if I was not reassured by observing an advertisement of somebody's beef-tea on the back.

The Newly-Married Wife (In Husband). Jack!

Jack. Well?

Jack. Well?

N. M. W. Wasn't it idiotic of me to go and leave my umbrella behind like that?

Jack (tenderly). Not a bit.

N. M. W. Jack, I won't have you saying I'm not idiotic when I know I was. Now say I was idiotic, like a good boy.

Jack. Shan't!

The N. M. W. Then you shan't have any melted butter till you [Dispute lasts throughout meal, and is in danger of culminating in a serious misunderstanding, until JACK Anally admits, in a very handsome manner, that perhaps she had acted rather

An Impressionable Tourist (to himself). What a lovely girl that is next to me—how superior she seems to all these other people! No wonder she is so silent! I must speak to her, if only to hear her voice. I'll try it—she can but snub me. (Aloud, to Fair Neighbour.) What a wonderful view you get here of—

hat a wonderful view you get here of— Waiter (suddenly interposing with dishes). Gudlet or Hash Muddon? [The Divinity appears, in the business of choosing, to have forgotten that she has been addressed; the Impressionable Tourist feels that the golden moment has flown for the present, and bides his time till the sweets appear, when she

opens her lips for the first time.

The Divinity (to her Mother, a Glasgow lady). Mammaw, aw'm y'n—they 've pit tae much sugar in th' Semolina pudd'n!

[The dream fades : Impressionable Tourist decides to spend his evening in the Billiard Room as usual.

PICTURE-GALLERIES FOR THE PEOPLE.

Picture idiotarum libri sunt: but there are idiots and idiots—the simply illiterate and the imbecile. The latter have been provided with an abundance of pictures, which, adapted to their capacities, serve them instead of books; namely, the numberless pictorial advertisements on the walls and hoardings which they can run and read. Most of these posters are calculated merely to catch the idiots' pence, but many appeal to their propensities, particularly cartoons representing scenes from revolting stories and execrable dramas. Go where they will, creatures of vile impulses and weak intellect are gratified by figures, chiefly female, falling stabbed or shot, or the victims of savage and brutal assaults and outrages, sprawling on the ground. Is it really true that the works of High Art collected in National

Is it really true that the works of High Art collected in National Galleries, and other pictorial Exhibitions of the better class, exercise an elevating influence on the minds of the people who contemplate them? Because, then it may reasonably be supposed to follow that a degrading influence is exerted by illustrations of robbery with violence, and ferocious homicide, upon beholders of the baser sort. Idiots of that description need give themselves no trouble whatever to go and see those hideous productions of the pot-boiler's paint-brush, the puffs of abominable novels and atrocious plays. The peculiar picture-galleries established to attract the multitude, stare them everywhere in the face—exhibitions on view from morning to night every day of the week, and all of them open on Sundays, when the others credited with improving the minds and cultivating the taste of the masses, are mostly closed. Supplied as the idiots are with a profusion of pictures which cannot fail to afford them diabolical suggestions, what wonder when some of them are occasioned to reduce those horrible imaginings to practice?

there's that man who sat next to us at Oban, don't you remember?

I don't want to have to bow to him!

I'm sure you talked ever so much to him that evening.

The Pretty S. I know; but I shouldn't have if I'd known he was going to turn up again in this ridiculous way.

The Grumbler (who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early when he is at home—generally on the Grumbler who dines early who he was a home—generally on the Grumbler who had been decreased as a home—generally on the Grumbler who had been decreased as a home—generally on the Grumbler who had been decreased as a home—generally on the Grumbler who had been decreased as a home—generally on the Grumbler who had been decreased as a home—generally on the Grumbler who had been decreased as a home—generally on the

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